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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Honorable William H. Zeliff, Jr.
House of Representatives
224 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-2901

Dear Congressman Zeliff:

This is in reply to your letter of December 20, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Mr. Richard C. Heselton, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals, plus a discussion paper released March 1, 1993. Questions 8 and 17 of the discussion paper specifically address the issues of concern to your constituent.

We are sensitive to the needs of users of private land mobile radio spectrum and the impact that these proposals may have on their radio systems, particularly those operated by public safety entities. Your constituent's concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules.

Thank you for your interest in this proceeding. We expect to issue final rules in 1994.

Sincerely,

/s/

Joseph A. Levin
Chief, Policy & Planning Branch
Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures

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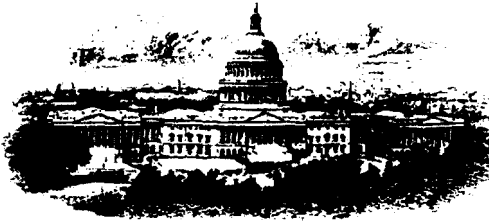
WILLIAM H. ZELIFF, JR.
1ST DISTRICT, NEW HAMPSHIRE

224 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-2901
(202) 225-5456

DISTRICT OFFICES:
340 COMMERCIAL STREET
MANCHESTER, NH 03101
(603) 669-6330

601 SPAULDING TURNPIKE
SUITE 28
PORTSMOUTH, NH 03801
(603) 433-1601

TOLL FREE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE
1-800-649-7290



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2001

December 20, 1993

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SBA, LEGISLATION AND
THE GENERAL ECONOMY

Mr. Richard C. Heselton
Fire Chief
Fremont Fire Department
Fremont, New Hampshire 03044

Dear Chief Heselton:

Thank you for contacting my office concerning a proposal to change the frequency standards of your radio systems. I was not previously aware of this proposal, and I appreciate your bringing it to my attention.

I agree that should these new regulations take effect as you state, they would impose a great financial hardship on small fire, police and highway departments. Operating within tight budgets, these departments would face the necessity of new and expensive equipment purchases, resulting in higher local taxes or reduced community services. You also make an excellent point that should these regulations progress, small volunteer groups should be given special consideration.

On your behalf, I will by copy of this letter contact the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission and ask him for a status report on these proposed regulations. I will be certain to forward a copy of his response as soon as I receive it, and we will then be in a good position to evaluate the situation.

Sincerely,

Bill Zelf
Bill Zelf
Member of Congress

WHZ:mp

cc: Chairman James H. Quello
Federal Communications Commission

FREMONT FIRE DEPARTMENT

FREMONT, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03044

RICHARD C. HESELTON, CHIEF

November 18, 1993

Rep. Bill Zeliff
224 Cannon Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20515

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NOV 25 1993

Congressman Bill Zeliff
Washington DC 20515

Dear Rep. Zeliff:

I have been hearing bits and pieces of a proposed ruling by the Federal Communication Commission that there is going to be a change in the radio systems. In that frequencys will be split and the radio equipment we now have can not be reworked and will have to be replaced by equipment costing about \$3,000.00 per unit.

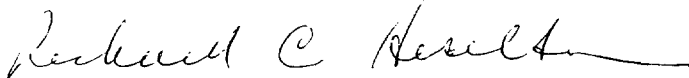
Our small town department has about 23 portable radios and 12 mobile radios and 3 base stations. The Department works on a approximately \$30,000.00 a year budget. This change over would be total devistating to this department and many other small fire, police and highway departments.

I understand that Motorola Corp. is really trying to sell this system. It could have catastrophic results on some towns, cities and counties.

My suggestion would be to tighten up on the use of the systems we now have and have new applications for radio licenses to comply with new split frequency requirements.

Please advise me how this regulation is progressing and if there is an exception for the small volunteer groups that just cannot afford this type of financial burden.

Sincerely,



Richard C. Heselton
Fire Chief
Fremont, NH 03044